

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 24 of the Substitute Specification with the following amended paragraph:

Figure 2 illustrates a flowchart of the process running in an apparatus according to an example embodiment of the present invention. The algorithm for generating the triggering decision is executed in block 20. To this end, control unit 11 receives triggering-relevant sensor signals from sensors 10, 12, 13 and 14. At the same time, a plausibility check is performed in blocks 21 and 22. This plausibility check may be performed in block 21 on a conventional plausibility signal, i.e., on a signal of one of crash sensors 10, 12, 13 or 14 or of a central sensor in control unit 11. There, a mechanical switch, for example a Hamlin switch, may be used as well. In addition, a plausibility check is performed in block 22 on the basis of the signals of ESP control unit 15 or of knock control system 16. The plausibility checks of blocks 21 and 22 are combined in an OR operation in block [[22]] 23. That is to say, if only one of blocks 21 or 22 indicates a plausibility signal, then the output of OR gate 23 will yield a logical one, indicating the presence of a plausibility signal for a crash. OR gate 23 is connected to a first input of an AND gate 24. Block 20, which outputs the triggering decision, is connected to a second input. If the triggering decision is YES and a plausibility signal was detected, then the instruction to fire is given at the output of AND gate 24. If no triggering decision was generated or if no plausibility signal is present, then no firing instruction is issued.